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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/081,737	05/19/1998	QINGYUN LIU	19959Y	1859
210 75	90 10/17/2003		EXAMINER	
MERCK AND CO INC			RAMIREZ, DELIA M	
P O BOX 2000				
RAHWAY, NJ 070650907			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1652	, 2
•	•		DATE MAIL ED: 10/17/2003	17

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/081,737

Art Unit: 1652

## **DETAILED ACTION**

Status of the Application

Claims 1-9 and 16-19 are pending.

## Allowable Subject Matter

- 1. Claims 1-9 and 16-19 appear to be allowable over the prior art of record.
- 2. Due to a potential interference *Ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

## Conclusion

3. Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1652 by facsimile transmission. The FAX number is (703) 308-4556. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 CFR 1.6(d)). NOTE: If Applicant submits a paper by FAX, the original copy should be retained by Applicant or Applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED, so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Delia M. Ramirez whose telephone number is (703) 306-0288. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Ponnathapura Achutamurthy can be reached on (703) 308-3804. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

DR October 14, 2003 Delia M. Ramirez, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner Art Unit 1652

> REBECCA E. PROUTE PRIMARY EXAMINED

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